

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9613

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04611

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MI, SF, UK

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MALAWI

REF: BLANTYRE 360 (NOTAL); STATE 065765 (NOTAL)

1. WITHOUT REFERENCE TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER RITCHIE'S COMMENTS TO AMBASSADOR STEVENSON, EMBOFF DISCUSSED BRITISH INTENTIONS CONCERNING THEIR ARMY TRAINING TEAM AND DEFENSE ADVISOR IN MALAWI WITH MARTIN REID, HEAD CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEPARTMENT, ON MARCH 25. REID CONFIRMED WHAT RITCHIE SAID, I.E. THAT BRITISH TRAINING TEAM NOW COMPLETING WITHDRAWAL AND THAT DEFENSE ADVISOR WILL NOT BE REPLACED ON HIS DEPARTURE. BRITISH HAVE NO INTENTION ATTEMPT PREEMPT ANY EFFORTS SOUTH AFRICANS MIGHT MAKE TO REPLACE THEIR MILITARY TRAINING TEAM.

2. REID ALSO COMMENTED THAT BRITISH HAD NO INFORMATION CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS TO INCREASE THEIR MILITARY CONTACTS WITH MALAWI. ON PURELY PERSONAL BASIS, REID SAID HE DOUBTED THEY WOULD, AS THEIR INTEREST IN MALAWI AS PART OF THEIR NORTHERN DEFENSE PERIMETER HAD DECREASED GREATLY WITH FORTHCOMING INDEPENDENCE OF MOZAM-
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BIQUE.

3. AT SAME TIME EMBOFF INDICATED TO REID THAT U.S. HAD
NO INTENTIONS TO ENCOURAGE BRITISH TO CONTINUE THEIR
MILITARY AID TO MALAWI TO PREEMPT SOUTH AFRICANS.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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